

Message Text

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72

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IGA-02 AID-20 DPW-01 SR-02 ORM-03

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19

IO-13 DRC-01 /147 W

----- 125403

R 181055Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5886

INFO CMDR USSAG NKP

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 6416

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, MOPS, LA

SUBJECT: GAO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON WAR-RELATED
CASUALTIES IN LAOS

REF: VIENTIANE 4671

1. ON SEPTEMBER 18, EMBASSY RECEIVED FROM MR. RONALD L. KING, SUPERVISORY GAO AUDITOR, MEMORANDUM DATED SAME DAY REQUESTING INFORMATION ON SUBJECT, PARTICULARLY INFORMATION ON ACCIDENTAL BOMBINGS DURING FY-72/73/74. MEMO ENCLOSED CHAPTER SEVEN OF PREVIOUS GAO REPORT ON SUBJECT DATED MARCH 13, 1972. REPORT NUMBER IS B-133001. KING STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN REQUESTED BY KENNEDY SUBCOMMITTEE TO UP-DATE CHAPTER SEVEN. EMBASSY OFFICER INFORMED KING THAT, AS WAS CASE OF PREVIOUS SUCH REQUEST, (REFTEL) EMBASSY FULLY PREPARED TO COOPERATE IN EVERY WAY. HOWEVER, EMBASSY WOULD FIRST HAVE TO REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED FROM WASHINGTON, WHICH WE PRESUMED WOULD BE FORTHCOMING. KING WAS INFORMED THAT AIR ATTACHE OFFICE KEPT RECORDS ON SUCH CASES, AS DID USSAG/NKP.

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2. ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY REQUESTS AUTHORIZATION TO FURNISH
INFORMATION DESIRED BY GAO AS OUTLINED IN FOLLOWING GAO

MEMO.

3. BEGIN TEXT OF MEMO:

QUOTE

TO: MR. RICHARD HOWLAND, POLITICAL SECTION,
U.S. EMBASSY, VIENTIANE, LAOS

FROM: RONALD L. KING, SITE SUPERVISOR,
: SUPERVOSORY GAO AUDITOR, BANGKOK OFFICE

SUBJ: REVIEW OF REFUGEES, WAS CASUALTY, CIVILIAN HEALTH,
AND SOCIAL WELFARE PROGRAMS IN LAOS (CODE 48664)

AS PART OF THE SUBJECT ASSIGNMENT, WE HAVE BEEN REQUESTED TO UP-DATE THE DATA CONTAINED IN OUR PRIOR REPORTS TO THE CHAIRMAN, SENATE SUB-COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH REFUGEES AND ESCAPEES. IN OUR REPORT, ENTITLED "FOLLOW-UP REVIEW OF CIVILIAN HEALTH AND WAR-RELATED CASUALTY PROGRAM IN LAOS." B-133001, DATED MARCH 13, 1972, WE REPORTED ON ACCIDENTAL BOMBINGS IN LAOS.

ATTACHED IS A COPY OF THE ACCIDENTAL BOMBING CHAPTER FROM THE ABOVE REPORT. IT IS REQUESTED THAT WE BE PROVIDED WITH THE FOLLOWING DATA:

A. NUMBER OF INCIDENTS AND THE NUMBER OF PERSONS KILLED AND WOUNDED IN THESE INCIDENTS DURING FISCAL YEARS 1972, 1973, AND TO DATE IN 1974, IF ANY, BY ACCIDENTAL BOMBINGS.

B. SAME INFORMATION ON INCIDENTS RESULTING FROM ACCIDENTAL DETONATION OF UNEXPLODED BOMBS.

C. PROCEDURES FOR INVESTIGATION AND SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS.

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D. CRITERIA FOR SETTLING THE AMOUNT TO BE PAID TO CLAIMANTS.

E. AMOUNTS OF SETTLEMENTS MADE DURING FISCAL YEARS 1972, 1973, AND TO DATE IN 1974.

F. UPDATE ON ALLOCATIONS MADE BY THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE TO THE CONTINGENCY FUND FOR ACCIDENTAL BOMBINGS.

DURING OUR OPENING CONFERENCE WITH MR. DEAN,
HE ADVISED US THAT OPERATIONS WERE UNDERWAY TO LOCATE
AND DISARM OR DESTROY LIVE, UNEXPLODED MUNITIONS DROPPED
BY U.S. AIRCRAFT OVER LAOS. BECAUSE OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE'S
APPARENT CONCERN ABOUT POSSIBLE FUTURE REFUGEE CASUALTIES
RESULTING FROM ACCIDENTAL DETONATION OF UNEXPLODED MUNI-
TIONS, IT IS REQUESTED THAT WE BE PROVIDED WITH INFORMATION
ON U.S. ACTIVITIES TO CLEAN UP THE AREA TO PRECLUDE FUTURE
INCIDENTS WHICH COULD RESULT IN ADDITIONAL CLAIMS AGAINST
THE U.S. GOVERNMENT. UNQUOTE - END OF TEXT OF MEMO
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973VIENTI06416
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730926/aaaaassy.tel
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: MILI, MOPS, LA
To: STATE
Type: TE
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